

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 201962

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: VISIT OF U.S. SOFTBALL OFFICIALS

1. DEPARTMENT NOTIFIED THAT DON PORTER AND BILL KETHAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND PRESIDENT OF AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION (ASA) SCHEDULED ARRIVE MOSCOW 1840 SEPTEMBER 18 VIA JAL 440 FROM PARIS PORTER AND KETHAN, WHO ALSO AFFILIATED WITH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS, WERE INVITED BY MR. KOVAL, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN USSR SPORTS COMMITTEE.

2. WE UNDERSTAND THEY AGREED TO TRY TO POPULARIZE RUSSIAN BANDY (VARIATION OF ICE HOCKEY) IN U.S. WHILE SOVIET OFFICIAL WILL PROMOTE SOFTBALL IN USSR.

3. PORTER AND KETHAN, WHO SCHEDULED RETURN U.S. SEPTEMBER 22, NOT AWARE WHERE THEY STAYING IN MOSCOW. KISSINGER

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